

## Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-10 SAJ-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10 MC-02 OPR-02 SY-05 SCCT-01

USSS-00 /100 W

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R 171311Z JUN 75

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 960

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 208

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, U.K. (N.I.)

SUBJECT: RAID ON ARMORY NETS LARGE HAUL OF GUNS AND AMMUNITION

REF: (A) BELFAST 204 (B) BELFAST 174

1. UNKNOWN NUMBER ARMED MEN RAIDED ULSTER DEFENSE REGIMENT (UDR) CENTER AT MAGHERAFELT, NORTHERN IRELAND SHORTLY AFTER 3 A.M. JUNE 16. GANG TOOK MORE THAN 200 WEAPONS INCLUDING ONE-MACHINE GUN 35 STIRLING SUB-MACHINE GUNS, 148 SELF-LOADING RIFLES, PISTOLS AND ESTIMATED 20,000 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION. ARMS LOADED IN TWO LAND ROVERS WHICH LATER FOUND BURNED OUT FIVE MILES AWAY AT STRONGLY REPUBLICAN AREA GULLADUFF.

2. EXACT DETAILS OF ATTACK LACKING BUT IT BELIEVED UNMASKED RAIDER ENGAGED GATE SENTRY IN CONVERSATION, OVERPOWERED HIM AND OPENED GATES FOR OTHERS. BETWEEN FIVE AND NINE OTHER MEN ON DUTY OVERPOWERED AS RAIDERS PROCEEDED DIRECTLY TO ARMORY.

3. CIRCUMSTANCES OF RAID HAVE AROUSED HEATED CONTROVERSY.

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IVAN COOPER, SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR PARTY (SDLP)

CONVENTION MEMBER FROM MAGHERAFELT AREA HAS CHARGED COLLUSION BETWEEN MEMBERS ULSTER DEFENSE REGIMENT AND LOYALIST PARAMILITARY FORCES. REPUBLICAN CLUBS HAVE CALLED FOR UDR BE DISBANDED. ORANGE ORDER AND VANGUARD UNIONST PARTY HAVE CONDEMNED SLURS ON SECURITY FORCES AND ORANGE ORDER SUGGESTED PROVISIONAL IRA RESPONSIBLE FOR RAID. OFFICIAL SOURCES NON-COMMITAL PENDING RESULTS INVESTIGATION BUT HAVE LET IT BE KNOWN PREVIOUS ALLEGATIONS BY COOPER HAVE NOT RPT NOT BEEN FOLLOWED BY PROOF.

4. ANY ASSOCIATION BETWEEN SECURITY FORCES AND PARAMILITARIES IS SENSITIVE SUBJECT ULSTER. THERE RECENTLY TWO INSTANCES IN WHICH APPEARS BRITISH SOLDIERS OR ARMY CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES PROVIDED RESTRICTED OFFICIAL INFORMATION ON REPUBLICANS TO PROTESTANT PARAMILITARY ORGANIZATION IN PAST. RAID ON UDR CENTER NOW FEEDING CURRENT SUSPICIONS. AT ROOT IS SDLP APPREHENSION THAT UBR AND ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARLY RESERVE WOULD SERVE AS NUCLEUS LOYALIST ARMED FORCES IN EVENT UDI. (REFTEL B).  
SPICER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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